closely by the RBI and steps are taken, as and when necessary, to counter speculative pressures against the rupee and to maintain orderly foreign exchange market conditions.

[English]

Foreign Exchange Reserve

5028. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :
SHRIMATI PURNIMA VERMA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the foreign exchange reserve has been continually decreasing for the last few years;

(b) if so, the details of decrease in this reserve during each of the last two years and month-wise details during 1997 as on April, 1997 alongwith the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the steps being taken to improve the foreign exchange reserve position ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) India's foreign exchange reserves (excluding gold and SDRs) had declined from US $ 20809 million at end March 1995 to US $ 15943 million at end February 1996, because of the steep rise in imports, moderation in capital inflows and a sizeable increase in servicing of external debt. However, from March 1996,foreign exchange reserves, increased continuously to reach a level of US $ 22367 million at end March 1997 and further to US $ 22659 million at end April 1997. The monthly trend in foreign exchange reserves (excluding gold and SDRs) from March 1995 to April 1997 is given in the Statement attached.

Statement

The monthly trend in foreign exchange reserves (excluding gold and SDRs)

Month/Year	Foreign Exchange Reserves (in US $ million)
1	2
March, 1995	20809
April, 1995	20454
May, 1995	20267
June, 1995	19601
July, 1995	19882
August, 1995	18990
September, 1995	19064
October, 1995	17753
November, 1995	17335
December, 1995	17467
January, 1996	16310
February, 1996	15943
March, 1996	17044
April, 1996	17088
May, 1996	17105
June, 1996	17526
July, 1996	17940
August, 1996	17976
September, 1996	18433
October, 1996	19177
November, 1996	19388
December, 1996	19742
January, 1997	19848
February, 1997	19695
March, 1997	22367
April, 1997*	22659

*Provisional

[Translation]

Short Denomination Notes

5029. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the details of the currency notes of the denominations of Re. one, Rs. two, Rs. five and Rs. ten printed during each of the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : The details of the currency/bank notes of the denominations of Re.1, Rs. 2, Rs. 5 and Rs. 10 printed during each of the last three years are as under :

Denomination	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
	(figures in million)		
Re. 1	40	–	–
Rs. 2	91	–	–
Rs. 5	480	157	–
Rs. 10	2632	2571	2883
Total	3243	2728	2883

[English]

Fifth Pay Commission Report

5030. SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the M/s. Bahari Brothers, (publishers and